



Provider Supports Subcommittee

Feedback Loop

December 14, 2022

Recommendations, Input and Decisions Made, Status Updates

Follow Up Items from October 12

Trauma-Informed Care

Thanks so much for the feedback shared during the October Provider Supports Committee Meeting about DCYF's efforts to grow Fair Start for Kids Act trauma-informed and healing-centered supports. We appreciate it! As part of DCYF's effort to close the feedback loop related to that feedback:

- Related to questions about the new 4-hour Trauma-Informed and Healing-Centered Fundamentals Training being created by DCYF, DCYF will be including that training into Child Care Basics (CCB). CCB will remain 30 hours. During the Committee meeting, a request was made that the training include resources on the different types of trauma and how trauma can impact home and classroom environments. DCYF plans to include that information in the new training.
- DCYF appreciates the Committee's recommendation that DCYF keep the early childhood workforce shortage in mind while introducing new trauma-informed and healing-centered supports. In fact, the agency is working to ease the staffing crisis through introduction of trauma-informed and healing-centered supports. Trauma-informed knowledge, skills, and abilities stand to better equip providers to serve children and families who have experienced trauma. Well-supported providers are less likely to burnout and more likely to remain in the childcare profession.

DCYF Leadership Panel

Follow Up from DCYF Secretary Ross Hunter:

Thank you for a productive conversation during the October 12 meeting. I appreciate the dedication of the members of this group and look forward to more conversation and continued collaboration as we move forward. Please see the updates below in response to our discussion and the feedback received from members.

- *Future Collaboration between DCYF Leadership and Provider Supports*
 - Many of you shared questions and concerns regarding DCYF Leadership's role in agenda development and meeting planning moving forward. I want to make it clear that we are not interested in controlling the agendas, but we are interested in finding ways to increase effective and two-way collaboration with Provider Supports. Your feedback made clear the need for more conversation is needed with Early Learning and Licensing leadership on how to best partner on this work in the future. I want to assure members that I hear you, and no changes are being proposed to the meeting planning process at this time. Any future decisions will be made collaboratively with the involvement of the Subcommittee. As I shared during the meeting, I have committed to attending two Provider Supports meetings per year starting in 2023.
- *Providers have voiced concern over the lack of opportunity to work collaboratively with Licensing and to provide feedback when policy decisions are being made. How can this be resolved?*
 - I agree that division leadership should be present and engaged in the work of the advisory groups, and that Licensing should be consistently collaborating with Provider Supports when decisions affecting the childcare space are being made. DCYF is committed to taking the following steps to resolve this issue:
 - In the coming weeks, Licensing Division leadership will work with Public Affairs to formalize a consistent engagement plan with Provider Supports for the upcoming year.



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- This will include Licensing Division's participation in the development of the Provider Supports annual work plan.
- *With the recent changes to the Community Engagement team, what is DCYF's plan to ensure that ELAC and Provider Supports continue to receive the critical support that CE provides?*
 - Please see the below response to the November 2022 [letter from ELAC to DCYF leadership](#) requesting support and information regarding the recent changes to the Community Engagement Team:

December 5, 2022

Re Community Engagement Transition

Dear Members of the Early Learning Advisory Council,

Thank you for reaching out regarding the transition of staffing within the Public Affairs division. First, any staff transition is hard. Deanna was a strong asset to the Department of Early Learning and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families. Her contributions to ELAC and engagement overall are felt throughout our work.

There were some questions about the transition; I want to take this opportunity to share some updates. First, on November 1, 2022 Erin Kerrigan was appointed as Interim Deputy Director for Community Engagement. Erin is deeply committed to the work, has extensive knowledge, skills and experiences in managing engagement work and DCYF as a whole. I am thrilled Erin agreed to step into this role and taken on this opportunity. She has jumped right into the role, providing continuity and stability.

Second, the position for a permanent Assistant Director of Community Engagement was posted in mid-November and interviews are happening over the next few weeks. If all goes according to timelines, this position should be hired and in place shortly after the first of the year.

Third, the engagement team is growing. Within the next few weeks, we will be adding an additional administrator to the team who will bring capacity and focus to grow our formal and informal connections with stakeholders in the child welfare space. This has been a capacity and knowledge gap on the existing team and I am excited to expand our reach through the Public Affairs division.

Thank you for your commitment to the children, youth and families across Washington State. The engagement you have in the early learning space is a valuable asset to DCYF and the state as a whole. I look forward to our continued work together.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allison Krutsinger".

Allison Krutsinger
Director, Office of Public Affairs



Subcommittee Updates

Fair Start for Kids Act | Temporary Licensing Subcommittee

The TLS met on Oct. 19 to review the final recommendations to be submitted in the Recommendation Report. Following the meeting, the final draft of the recommendation report was distributed to members, in addition to ELAC and PS. On Nov. 9, the final TLS meeting was held. The entire recommendation report, including the 37 recommendations, were reviewed and approved by the participants. The attached report has been submitted to Government Affairs for an internal division review, prior to being submitted to the legislature/governor.